

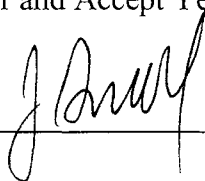
REPORT

DATE: November 2, 2006

TO: Administration and Regional Council

FROM: Lynn Harris, Manager of Community Development 213-236-1875, harris@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Resolution #06-480-1 to Apply for and Accept Year Two Regional Blueprint Planning Grant Funds

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL: 

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt Resolution 06-480-1 to apply for and, if awarded, accept the SCAG Year Two grant Regional Blueprint Planning Grant Funds.

SUMMARY:

Caltrans requires current recipients of Blueprint Planning Grant Year One funds to renew the application for Year Two funding. SCAG is currently conducting Blueprint Planning funded by a \$1,258,450 Year One grant award, based upon a two-year application submitted in Fiscal Year (FY) 2005-2006. Staff is preparing the Year Two renewal application for approximately \$1,100,000 in additional Blueprint grant funds. The Year Two application will focus on expanding regionwide Compass demonstration projects, measuring and evaluating Compass benefits, and developing a housing allocation incentive and trading program. The SCAG Blueprint second-year application will also stress our continued commitment to public engagement throughout our processes.

BACKGROUND:

In Fiscal Year 2005-2006, the State made available \$5 million per year for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 to Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to conduct regional planning activities aimed at improving statewide mobility and conducting intensive comprehensive scenario planning. SCAG was awarded a \$1,258,450 Blueprint Grant in January 2006 and began conducting the project in spring 2006.

Currently work is underway on several transit oriented development (TOD) and general plan update demonstration projects with various cities and subregions in the region. In addition, SCAG has provided a long range housing projection (2005 to 2035) in the Integrated Growth Forecast and has defined local household growth (occupied housing units) for the 2005 to 2014 Regional Housing Needs Assessment planning period at the jurisdictional level. The consideration of housing allocation and development suitability between jurisdictions will be evaluated at 14 upcoming subregional workshops. A public workshop on the proposed Integrated Growth Forecast for Blueprint and RHNA planning was conducted on September 28, 2006 and kicked off this initiative.

Concurrently, SCAG has developed new tools for analysis including two indices for GIS analysis of TOD impact on growth, capacity/ density analysis and data development for 2007 RTP update (Vehicle Miles Traveled analysis by household in TAZs) and supported several key subregional studies on mixed use potential, parking and smart growth and refinement of Compass Blueprint 2% Strategy areas in key locations across the region's transit network. Work will also begin this fiscal year on evaluating Compass benefits, and forecasting and demonstration project work will continue.

REPORT

Caltrans recently advised MPOs that a renewal application must be submitted for Year Two Blueprint funding, with approximately \$4 million set aside for second year funding. As with the Year One grant application, the second year application requires a resolution by the MPO's governing body. Awards will be announced by mid- December and work can commence once Caltrans approves an amendment adding the Year Two funding to the SCAG Overall Work Program (OWP).

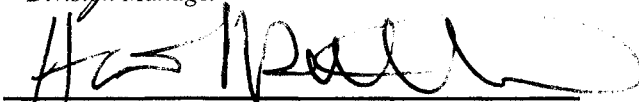
FISCAL IMPACT:

As with the Year One Blueprint funding, SCAG will be required to provide a 20% cash or in-kind match, to be financed with non-federal funds. SCAG will continue to meet this requirement through the documentation of in-kind services provided by the cities, subregions, and transportation commissions that are our partners in Blueprint planning.

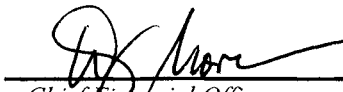
Reviewed
by:


Division Manager

Affirmed
by:


Department Director

Affirmed
by:


Chief Financial Officer

Doc # 128062v1

**RESOLUTION #06-480-1 OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TO APPROVE AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR AND
ACCEPT YEAR TWO CALIFORNIA REGIONAL BLUEPRINT
PLANNING GRANT FUNDS**

WHEREAS, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 134 et seq.; 49 U.S.C. 5303 et seq., for six counties: Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura, and Imperial;

WHEREAS, SCAG was awarded \$1,258,451 in Blueprint Planning Grant funds in Fiscal Year (FY) 2005-2006 (Year One);

WHEREAS, the FY 2006-2007 (Year Two) California State Budget includes approximately \$4 million in statewide funding available only to MPOs for California Regional Blueprint Planning Grant Program designed to support related statutory requirements, programs and guidelines that address the need for integrated planning;

WHEREAS, Caltrans requires a Grant Application Renewal for Year Two Continuing Blueprint Grants (Grant Application);

WHEREAS, each Blueprint Planning Grant awarded by the State will require at least a 20% cash or in-kind match financed with non-federal funds. SCAG intends to apply for up to \$1,100,000 in grant funds, which will require a 20% match, equaling up \$ 275,000; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Blueprint Planning Program is a voluntary, competitive grant program that will initiate or augment existing efforts of MPOs and Councils of Government (COGs) to conduct comprehensive scenario planning that results in consensus by regional leaders, local governments and stakeholders on a preferred growth scenario for a twenty-year planning horizon.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments to authorize SCAG to apply for, accept and manage a Year Two Regional Blueprint Planning Grant, to collaborate with other stakeholders in the grant program, and to implement the grant through the FY 2006-2007 OWP, as amended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

1. That the Regional Council approves and authorizes submittal of the Grant Application and related documents for approval to the State, and if the grant is approved, include the Blueprint Planning Grant funds in the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 OWP;
2. That SCAG pledges to secure cash or in-kind services, or both, for the matching funds necessary to receive Blueprint Planning Grant funds; and

3. That the SCAG Executive Director or his designee, is hereby authorized by the Regional Council to submit the Grant Application and execute all related agreements on behalf of the Regional Council for receipt and expenditure of Year Two Blueprint Planning Grant funds.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the unanimous vote of the Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments at a regular meeting this 2nd day of November, 2006.

YVONNE B. BURKE
President
Supervisor, County of Los Angeles

Mark Pisano
Executive Director

Karen Tachiki
Chief SCAG Legal Counsel